

I need a journal and a Commercial from you tonight but no letter,  
more however was expected. Run into as often as you can, dear woman, &  
not being included. Their nearness to  
the sea-coast probably makes these  
months more noisy ~~than~~ <sup>here</sup> than  
with us. Should my tin miss,  
prove true, the newspaper after being  
by false reports, raised unfounded ex-  
pectations of an early movement,  
will probably soon begin to denounce  
the Army of the Potomac for not moving.  
Indeed, it would not surprise  
me to find the journals, that are  
now making a demigod of Grant  
beginning to intimate that he is a  
failure and a humbug before the  
Fronts of July. It will certainly cost a  
great many lives and require some  
brilliant successes to preserve the fame  
of our Lieut Gen<sup>l</sup> until the  
leaves begin to fall. I think he  
takes command of this Army under  
happy auspices than any other gene-  
ral except McClellan, and I hope that  
under his guidance it will experience  
better fortunes. It has generally fought well  
and will do so again; its fighting qualities  
have always deserved more than it has ac-  
hieved. Having mailed you a letter this  
morning you might well guess that I would  
have <sup>more</sup> ~~little~~ to write you this evening than  
my own thoughts. If they should save you  
from some momentary of unnecessary  
pain and anxiety, I shall be very glad.

I am sorry you account of the children's health is not what I could wish  
- Particulating Rubber; where Case I put in distand. Watch them close

But give  
them plenty  
of water.  
I am very  
glad to  
hear that  
Ellen is  
my so  
well with  
her milk  
I hope she  
will continue to  
do so.  
To  
to  
you all  
with  
love  
I.  
Dear Day, my dear wife, you will  
frequently be excited by newspaper  
paragraphs on my account, and  
I therefore beg of you not to put too  
much faith in the announce-  
ments so flippantly made by news-  
paper correspondents. I have heard  
of several in the N.Y. Herald of  
yesterday which will probably ex-  
cite your fears should they fall  
under your eye. They are false and  
mischievous and will needlessly a-  
larm many a poor soldier's wife.  
The Spring is rapidly passing a-  
way and it would be very un-  
wise in our military Chief to let  
the days pass without making  
preparation for the work this ar-  
my is expected to do in the coming  
Campaign. Of course orders are  
being issued to complete the re-  
organization so lately commenced  
but none have yet been received  
which indicate an early movement.  
I have not thought that a forward

I could not without extreme delay, expect you with all your army and  
labor to write as often as I who have just now, to send her to occupy the  
movement was likely to occur much  
before the first of May under any  
circumstances. The army is being  
strengthened daily, but as the Eleventh  
and Twelfth Corps are coming  
here from the West, they must arrive  
and be prepared for service  
before anything is done. It is said  
this army is to <sup>be very</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>thoroughly</sup> re-  
- it will probably be much stronger  
than it has ever ~~before~~ been, before  
it commences offensive operations.  
The troops may however not all  
come here, and I think it very  
probable they will not. <sup>In that case</sup> It will be  
necessary to concentrate them at  
some point and have them fully  
equipped to strike a co-operating  
blow at the same time we move  
upon Lee. All this will take time,  
and if it came to be the first of June  
before we had struck our tent, I should  
not be greatly surprised. Another  
thing - the state of the roads - must be  
taken into consideration, as we can  
not move should the season prove  
very wet. I have written you my an-  
- ticipation of a rainy spring - these  
will certainly be realized unless we are

I hope you will see as little as possible - put out your leaving and see  
if you cannot get along better. It will be better to sacrifice anything but  
if you be a little. - That when you will require the Pacific & Halifax besides

to have nine months together of  
~~excepting~~ dry pleasant weather.  
The roads are in a horrible condi-  
- tion now - were indeed two days  
since, - and it has rained constant  
ly a part of yesterday, all <sup>night &</sup> day to day  
and now as I write - 9.30 P.M. it is  
still raining hard. If it continues  
to storm a day or so longer it will  
be no easy matter to get rations for  
my command. I have feared we  
should be ordered to march before  
the bad weather come on and be  
obliged to endure all the wretched  
necesses of life in a temporary camp  
during a protracted season of bad  
weather, - but I now feel as if we  
were to be allowed to spend some  
of it at least in our old camp  
where we have every thing as com-  
- fortable as we have a right to expect.  
Old settlers tell me that this and  
the coming month are two of the  
most disagreeable of the year - if I  
am not mistaken - with us, you  
know they are generally as wet as any  
another in the year, with one or two  
exceptions, the winter months of course